Standish-Hickey State Recreation Area
Final Report
July - October 2018

OPERATOR: Mendocino Area Parks Association (MAPA) and Team Standish

BACKGROUND

State Parks closed Standish-Hickey SRA in February 2012. MAPA and Team Standish reopened the park on July 6, 2012 under the provisions of AB42. Over the six years since then, we operated the park applying sound business practices. With the judicious use of a combination of grants, earned revenue and AB1478 Matching Funds we have completed a number of the deferred maintenance projects required by our Operating Agreement and in general have upgraded the facilities in the Standish-Hickey. These efforts have been reflected in the increase of both park attendance and revenue each year, as noted in the chart below.

	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY2017	FY2018	Jul-Oct 18	Total
Attendance	10,144	13,199	16,783	17,846	18,587	20,196	13,586	110,34
Grants	$97,500	$55,000	$35,000	$0	$35,000	$0	$0	$ 222,50
Ops Revenue	$98,812	$149,565	$201,529	$230,479	$246,456	$285,291	$198,375	$ 1,410,507

This Annual Report covers the State Parks Fiscal Year July 1, 2018– Oct 31, 2018

As the MAPA's Operating Agreement expired on October 31, 2018 this will be our final Report.

PARK MANAGEMENT

MAPA's Mission Statement is: "To Inspire and Ensure the Stewardship of the State Parks of Mendocino County"

Our tagline is: "*Appreciation through Education promotes Preservation*".

These serve as the foundation of our philosophy of how MAPA and Team Standish managed Standish-Hickey State Recreation Area.

In addition to the Operating Staff, below, overall management was exercised by the MAPA Board of Directors through a four member Standish-Hickey Management Committee. The team was comprised of the MAPA Executive Director and three board members, one of whom, Jeff Hedin represented Team Standish.

It was the function of the Management Committee to oversee the general operation of the park, maintain compliance with the Operating Agreement, provide general administrative support and operating policies and, in general, serve as an interface to DPR staff. To accomplish this, members of the Management Team and Operating Staff had regular meetings with CA State Parks Sector and District staff. In addition, Operating Staff had regular contact with their DPR counterparts on an ongoing basis as did Management Team members at a higher level.

STAFF

MAPA NON-PROFIT CORPORATE STAFF

- Park Operations Director (MAPA Executive Director)*
- MAPA Office Staff *

STANDISH-HICKEY OPERATING STAFF

During the camping Peak Season, Standish-Hickey employed 11 part-time staff as follows:

- Park Manager
- Assistant Park Manager/Maintenance Chief
- Visitor Service Manager
- Three Visitor Service assistants
- Maintenance Lead
- Three maintenance workers
- In addition we had two camp hosts who were required to put in 25 hours per week of volunteer time consistent with CA State Parks policy.

All employees were paid in excess of the minimum wage, commensurate with their level of responsibility and were generally scheduled to work less than 32 hours/week. During "surge" periods, i.e., a holiday weekend or a special event, certain employees worked up to 40 hours/week. Employment is seasonal, dropping to minimum staffing in the off season.

Prior to employment all employees had to pass a background check including LiveScan by a law enforcement agency.

* NOTE: MAPA was reimbursed for the Executive Director and Office Staff payroll based on the percentage of time spent working on Standish-Hickey affairs.

CAMPING SEASONS

The Park's Peak Season is from May 15 - Sept 15 with the rest of the year being off-season. During the off season only the Rock Creek campground (35 campsites) remains open year round. We opened the Hickey campground (63 campsites) on May 1 - October 31 and the Redwood Campground (63 campsites) from July 1 - September 15. The Redwood campground opening date was heavily dependent on our ability to put a seasonal Bailey bridge across the South Fork of the Eel River, a Federal Wild and Scenic River. The start date of bridge installation is dictated by the presence of salmonids in the river and governed by both state and federal regulations.

JULY- OCTOBER 2018-IN-REVIEW

Having made the decision to return Standish-Hickey SRA to CA State Parks at the conclusion of our Operating Agreement on October 31, 2018, our main focus was providing a quality, enjoyable outdoor experience for more than 13,500 campers and visitors. Attendance was down slightly during the summer camping season due to the Ranch, River, Carr and Camp wildfires in

the central valley that reduced road access to the coast from inland communities for extended periods of time.

During our six years of operating Standish-Hickey we were fortunate to have had very few serious incidents involving campers. However, on July 4th weekend this year an aging tanoak tree in the Hickey loop fell across two campsites demolishing three vehicles. Fortunately, there were no injuries. The fallen tree had not been identified as a hazard during a hazardous tree survey by CA State Parks in Spring 2018 that resulted in the removal of 56 hazardous trees. As the result of an insurance investigation, MAPA was relieved of liability for this occurrence.

INTERPRETER AND INTERN PROGRAMS. In 2018 we decided to suspend the interpreter and intern positions due to ongoing theft and vandalism from squatters on private property adjacent to our staff cabins. The viability of these positions was dependent on our ability to provide housing.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Although MAPA will no longer be operating Standish-Hickey, we suggest these opportunities to State Parks as staffing, funding and volunteers are available.

- Extend trails in Redwood Campground, create a new Lookout Trail destination. A dreamed of project would be to coordinate with the Redwood Forest Foundation to build a trail through their Usal Redwood Forest property from Standish to Usal Beach Campground.
- Finish self-guided Taber Trail brochure and install numbered interpretation posts.
- Install/repair bollards to eliminate degradation of some campsites.
- Make Hickey campground "family designated" and ban alcohol from those sites.
- Promote more community-based events and volunteerism for park.
- Partner with Interpretive Associations, schools and youth-sponsoring organizations to make Standish-Hickey a destination for nature education field trips.
- One of our biggest issues was security. CA State Parks was unable to provide ranger staff due to chronic understaffing so any response severely strained their already limited resources. This issue affected both park visitors and staff. As noted above, it was necessary to suspend our interpreter and intern programs due to security reasons. When adequate security can be guaranteed we highly recommend that both the interpreter and intern programs be reestablished.
- Another continuing challenge has been recruiting Camp Hosts, one for each campground loop, to help with late night noise issues and other Camp Host duties. to achieve this, it will be necessary to upgrade the camp host sites with full hook-ups.
- Currently the sole source of water for the park is from a well in the bed of the Eel River. As such, it is difficult or impossible to repair or service during periods of high water. Another well, as an alternate source of water, needs to be developed.

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

With only a few projects within our span of control remaining on our Deferred Maintenance list, little work was done on those projects during the final four months of operation.

PARK OPERATION WRAPUP ACTIVITIES

During August through October, meetings were held with North Coast Redwoods District staff to finalize park operations and determine disposition of equipment and remaining funds. It was decided that all rolling equipment, truck, ATVs, golf carts and trailer, would be transferred to the Humboldt Redwoods Interpretive Association (HRIA) stipulating continued use in Standish-Hickey SRA. Remaining tools and maintenance equipment would be donated to CA State Parks. Unused grant funds would be returned or donated as per the wishes of the original grantees and any remaining funds in MAPA's Standish-Hickey accounts would be donated to the North Coast Redwoods District for continued operation of Standish-Hickey SRA as stipulated in our Operating Agreement.

FINANCIALS

A financial statement is attached to this report. Although our Standish-Hickey Operating Agreement expired on October 31, 2018, the financials cover the period July 1 – December 30, 2018 in order to capture remaining financial activity except those associated with outstanding insurance and Workers Comp audits. When those audits are complete, in the spring of 2019, remaining funds will be donated to CA State Parks to assist in Standish-Hickey SRA operations.

SUMMARY

It has been a privilege operating Standish-Hickey SRA for the past six years and four months. We were challenged in reopening a facility that had been closed for five months and proud that our period of stewardship has been one of continued improvement of park facilities and amenities. Our sustained growth is reflected in the steadily increasing number of campers, visitors and revenue. We continually applied "lessons learned" during our first five years of operation, successfully leveraged our nonprofit contacts to bring additional financial resources to improve park operations and provided a positive visitor experience. None of this would have been possible without the fantastic support of the Leggett community, the marvelous cooperation from the DPR Eel River Sector staff, the North Coast Redwoods District, the DPR Sacramento offices, and of course, our own very dedicated Operations staff and Team Standish.

This past six plus years have truly been a team effort with a lot of disparate players coming together to contribute to our success. It is with a certain amount of sadness - and yet a tremendous feeling of satisfaction at what we have accomplished over the past more than six years - that we return Standish-Hickey SRA to CA State Parks. It is our hope that MAPA has successfully demonstrated to CA State Parks the benefits that can be leveraged and realized by partnerships with nonprofit organizations to serve the citizens of California in the years ahead.

Cally Dym, President
Mendocino Area Parks Association

12-31-18
Date

Preparer: Judy Smith
12/30/2018

Standish-Hickey SRA
Statement of Financial Activity
July 1 through December 30, 2018

	Jul 1 - Dec 30, 18
Income	
Park Concessions Income	
Campsite Fees	188,743
Shower Concessions	6,662
Firewood Sales Income	2,940
Total Park Concessions Income	198,345
Interest and Dividends	7
Total Income	198,352
Expense	
Administration	
Bank Charges	1,957
Insurance Expense	4,548
Interest Expense/Finance Charge	44
Meals & Ent (Program/Admin)	427
Office Expenses	455
Telephone, Telecommunications	460
Postage & Shipping	33
Computer Services	330
Travel and Meetings	308
	8,562
Operations	
Payroll Expenses incl Workers' Comp Insurance	82,733
Vehicle Expenses	829
Bridge Installation/Removal Exp	49,107
Utilities	29,249
Rep. and Maint. Building & Prop	1,301
Equip Rental and Maintenance	503
Small Tools	64
Security Services	5,671
Supplies	2,533
Depr and Amort Expense	7,548
	179,538
Programs	
Donations to Domestic Organizations - Cash	2,700
Donations to DPR - Cash	11,171
Donations In-Kind	18,895
Total Program Expenses	32,766
Total Expense	220,866
Net Income	**-22,514**

Preparer: Judy Smith
12/30/2018

Standish-Hickey SRA
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 30, 2018

	Dec 30, 18
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Savings Bank Checking - 1990	23,973
Savings Bank Savings -5450	15,927
Total Checking/Savings	39,900
Other Current Assets	
Payroll Receivable	791
Total Current Assets	40,690
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	
Workers' Comp Payable to MAPA	283
MAPA Loans Payable - Other	11
Total Current Liabilities	294
Equity	
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	62,910
Net Income Jul-Dec 2018	-22,514
Total Equity	40,396
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	40,690

Bookkeeper's Note: A refund of General Liability Insurance premium of approximately $3,000 is pending. It remains to be determined if the refund will be wholly or partially allocated to Standish Hickey's funds.

Standish-Hickey 449 Attendance Report 2018-2019

	Paid Day Use	Free Day Use	Overnight	Hike & Bike		Attendance	2017-18	M:M Diff	2017-18 YTD	Y:Y Diff	CY 2018		CY 2019
Jul	237	0	2120	144		6037	6843	88%			Jan	103	0
Aug	172	0	1619	126		4604	4272	108%	11115	96%	Feb	177	0
Sep	47	0	818	154		2317	2603	89%	13718	94%	Mar	297	0
Oct	0	0	242	24		629	679	93%	14397	94%	Apr	274	0
Nov	0	0	0	0			190	0%	14586	93%	May	1353	0
Dec	0	0	0	0			118	0%	14704	92%	Jun	3289	0
Jan	0	0	0	0			103	0%	14806	92%	Jul	6037	
Feb	0	0	0	0			177	0%	14983	91%	Aug	4604	
Mar	0	0	0	0			297	0%	15280	89%	Sep	2317	
Apr	0	0	0	0			274	0%	15554	87%	Oct	629	
May	0	0	0	0			1353	0%	16907	80%	Nov	0	
Jun	0	0	0	0			3289	0%	20196	67%	Dec	0	
	456	0	4799	448	5703								
Attendance	1140	0	11998	448		13586	20196					19078	0

2012-13	10144
2013-14	13199
2014-15	16782
2015-16	17846
2016-17	18587
2017-18	20196
2018-19	13586
Total	110340